

REMENDER • CRAIG • LOUGHRIDGE

DEADLY CLASS™



image®

1987
#3

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“There Is a Light That Never Goes Out” by Johnny Marr & Morrissey
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NOVEMBER 4

GIVEN WHAT WE'RE ABOUT TO DO--I SHOULD FEEL LIKE A **TERRIBLE** PERSON.

BUT I DON'T.

MORALITY'S JUST **COMFORT FOOD**--IT HOLDS NO MEANING OUTSIDE OF OUR MINDS.

LIKE THE MONA LISA--

A THING A LOT OF PEOPLE **IMAGINE** VALUE IN.

READING SOMETHING INTO THAT **IDIOTIC** HALF-SMILE SMEAR OF PAINT.

A GROUP HALLUCINATION.

STILL TIME TO TURN AROUND.

NOT ME.

ETHICAL COMPASS WOULD BE FINE IF **EVERYBODY** HAD ONE.

BUT TOO MANY DON'T PLAY BY THE RULES.

THERE ARE **MONSTERS** OUT THERE.

AND I'M GOING TO BE READY FOR THEM.

I'M GOING TO GROW **SCALES** AND BREATH **FIRE**--

--AND NO ONE IS *EVER* GOING
TO FUCK WITH ME AGAIN.

WOO-
HOO!

TOLD WILLIE
I'D JUMPED
THIS BEFORE.

HE CALLED BULLSHIT.

BET ME TWO DOLLARS.

MONEY'S MINE WITH
A FOOT TO SPARE--

SHIT!

USED TO JUMP THIS HALF
EXPECTING TO FALL.

MOST TIMES I NEARLY DID.

LEFT THAT PART OUT.

I GOT
YOU!

I'M--I'M
SLIPPING!

HOLD
ON!

HELP!

OH

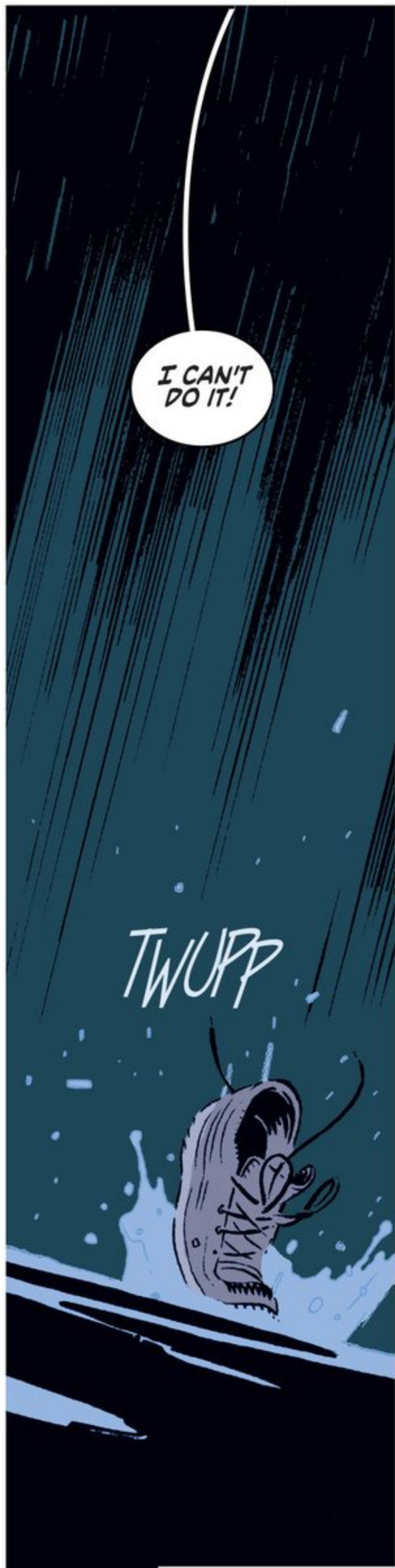
PULL!

I'M
TRYING!

FUCK--
D-DON'T
LET ME
DIE!

I-I
CAN'T--!

FUCK!





DEADLY CLASSES

RICK REMENDER
writer-co-creators-artist

WES CRAIG

LEE LOUGHRIDGE
colorist

RUS WOOTON
letterer

SEBASTIAN GIRNER
editor



SHIT LOOKS WAY COOLER WHEN BATMAN DOES IT.

I'M SORRY, DUDE.



I SHOULDN'T HAVE PUSHED.

IT WAS DUMB.

GET OURSELVES KILLED MEASURING DICKS.

DUMB AT THE VERY LEAST.



SHOWING OFF. I WAS JUST GLAD TO HAVE SOMEONE WHO WANTED TO HANG OUT WITH ME.

FIRST DAY AT THAT SCHOOL WAS FUCKING AWFUL.

YEAH, I REMEMBER MINE.

SOME *REAL* ASSHOLES IN THAT PLACE.



IT'S NOT EVEN THE OTHER KIDS, BECAUSE *FUCK THEM.*

IT'S *ME.* MY ANXIETY.

I DO THIS THING AFTER I'M AROUND PEOPLE WHERE I *OBSESSIVELY* OVERANALYZE *EVERY* INTERACTION TO SEE WHERE I WENT WRONG OR WHO I OFFENDED.



"EMOTIONAL PARANOIA" MY THERAPIST IN THE HOME CALLED IT.

AGONIZING OVER EVERY THING I SAY, EVERY CHOICE I EVER MAKE.

DAMN. FOR REALS?

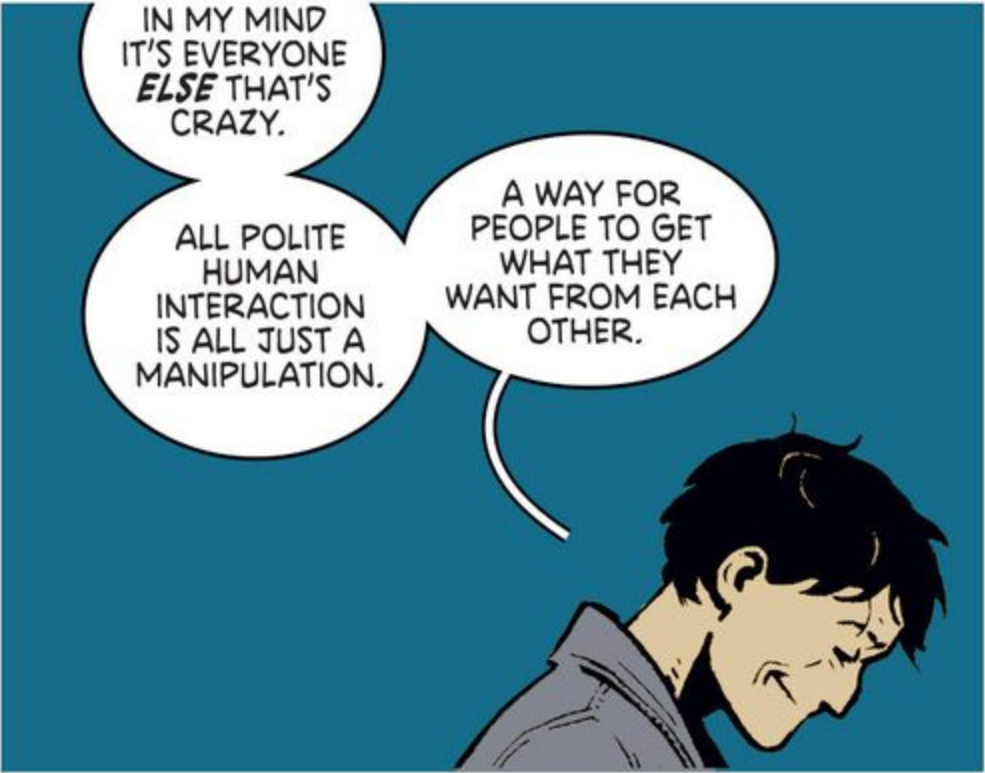


I SIT UP AT NIGHT WORRYING I DIDN'T CATCH THE CUES OR I SAID THE WRONG THINGS.

TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHY I'VE NEVER FIT IN ANYWHERE.

DAMN.

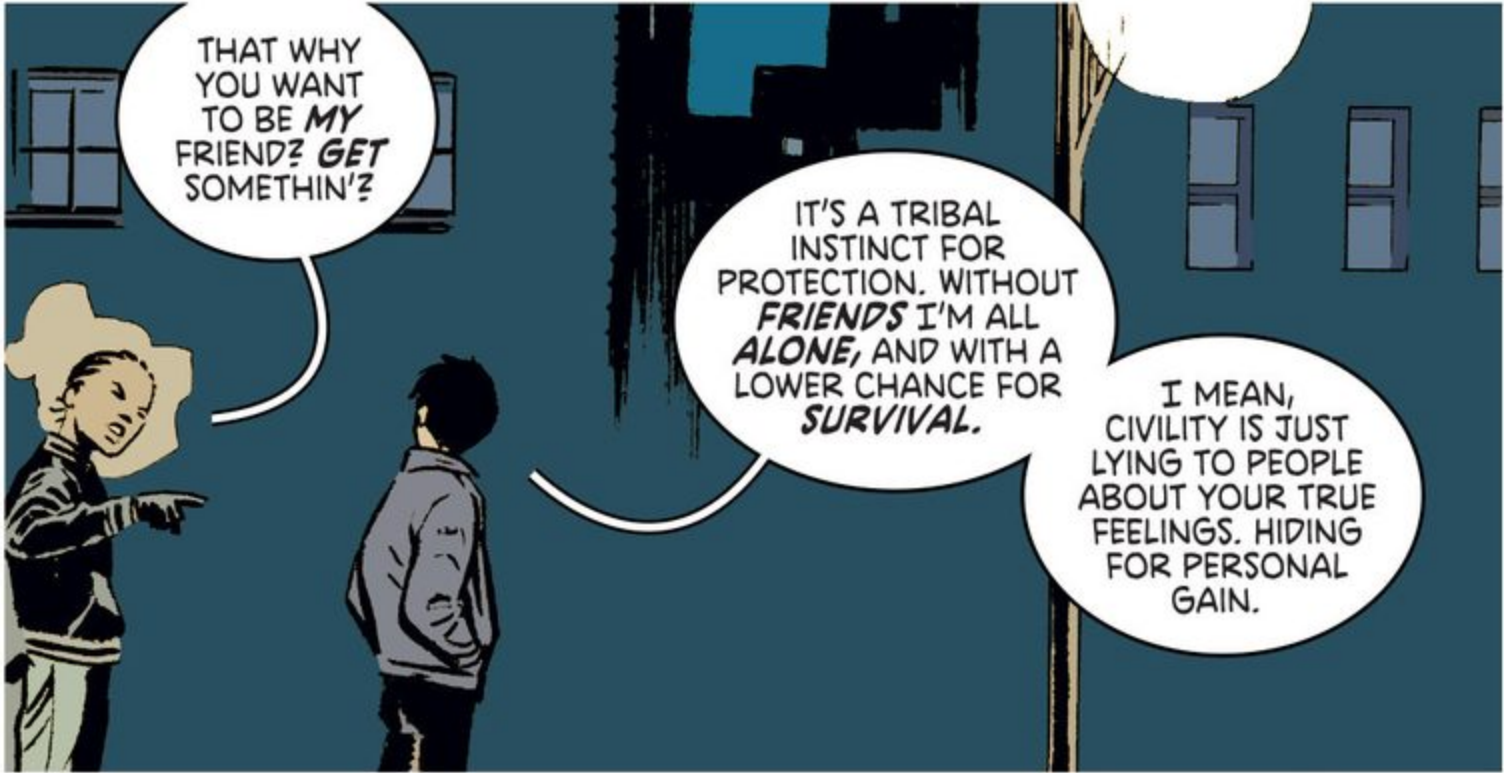
YOU *ARE* CRAZY.



IN MY MIND
IT'S EVERYONE
ELSE THAT'S
CRAZY.

ALL POLITE
HUMAN
INTERACTION
IS ALL JUST A
MANIPULATION.

A WAY FOR
PEOPLE TO GET
WHAT THEY
WANT FROM EACH
OTHER.



THAT WHY
YOU WANT
TO BE *MY*
FRIEND? *GET*
SOMETHIN'?

IT'S A TRIBAL
INSTINCT FOR
PROTECTION. WITHOUT
FRIENDS I'M ALL
ALONE, AND WITH A
LOWER CHANCE FOR
SURVIVAL.

I MEAN,
CIVILITY IS JUST
LYING TO PEOPLE
ABOUT YOUR TRUE
FEELINGS. HIDING
FOR PERSONAL
GAIN.



POPULAR
PEOPLE, WELL,
THEY'RE JUST
THE *BEST*
LIARS.

SO, YOU'RE
JUST BEING
"*CIVIL*" TO BE MY
FRIEND?

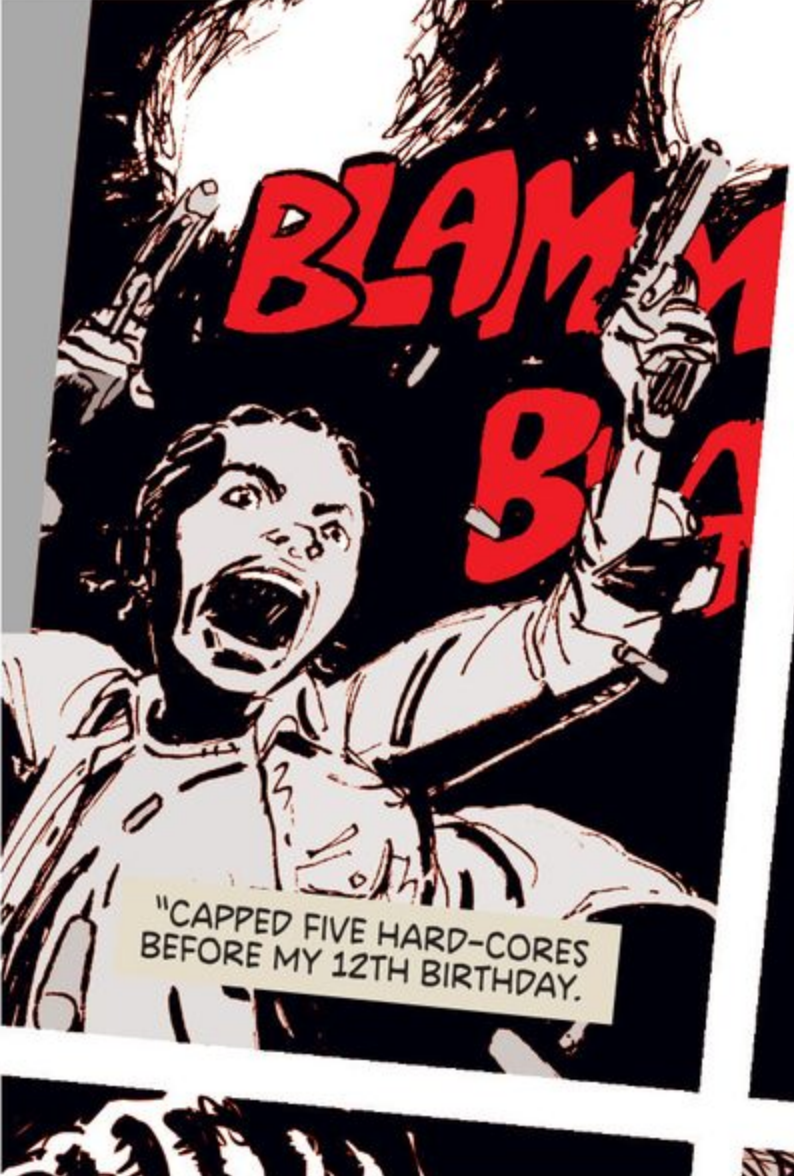
YEAH. OR
ELSE I'D POINT
OUT YOU CRIED
LIKE A *FUCKIN'*
BABY UP
THERE.

NOT EXACTLY
DOWN-BY-LAW
GANGBANGER
BEHAVIOR.



FUCK
YOU.

YOU
DON'T
KNOW
SHIT.



"CAPPED FIVE HARD-CORES
BEFORE MY 12TH BIRTHDAY.



"IN MY OWN HOUSE

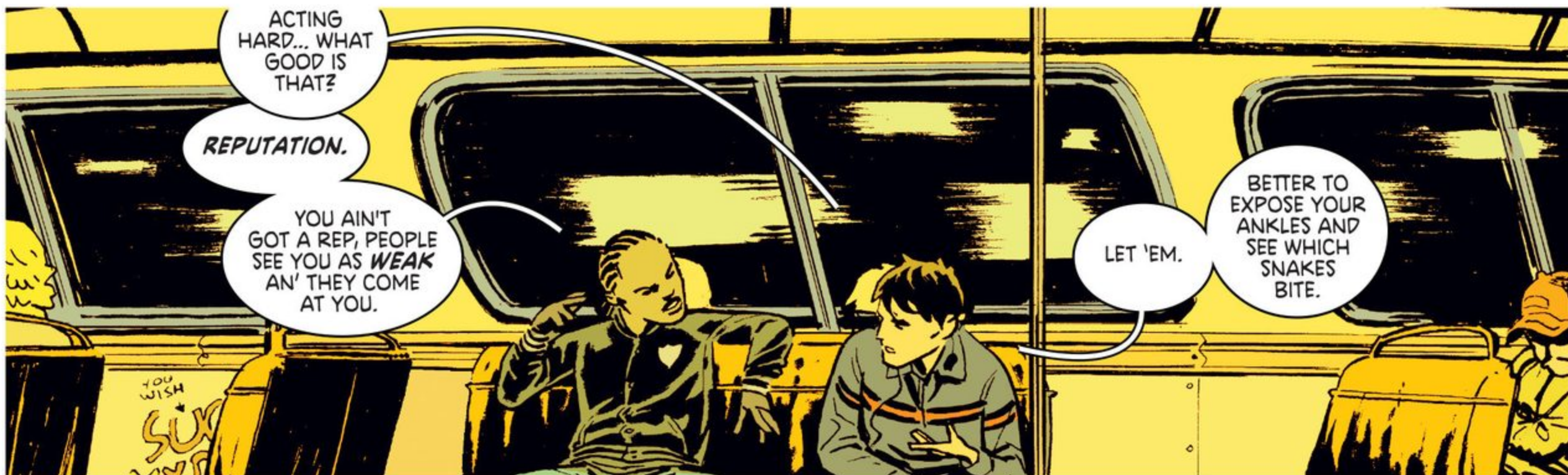


"AFTER THEY MURDERED
MY POPS IN FRONT
OF ME."



AIN'T *NO*
MYSTERY WHY
YOU AIN'T GOT
NO FRIENDS,
MOTHER-
FUCKER.

SEE?
YOU'RE JUST
PROVING MY
POINT...







MARCUS!

HOW YOU BEEN, MAN?

BEEN BETTER.

YOU COME FOR SOME 'LUDES? I GOT A SHITLOAD.

NOT REALLY...

BUT FUCK IT. SURE. WHY NOT?

SLICE AN DICE MAN

MY NAME IS BOB



THEY'RE RIGHTEOUS. ONLY TOOK EIGHT 'TA GET ME DOWN FROM EARLIER.

MONSTER WITH NO FACE COME THROUGH CAMP.



NO FACE?



WHAT I SAW WASN'T ANYTHING I'D CALL A FACE.

STIRRED UP THE LOCALS. GAVE US SOME TERRORS.

I KNOW BAD ENERGY. I CERTAINLY KNOW THE FORMLESS FACE OF SATAN.



LOOK, RORY, I'M LOOKING FOR A HOMELESS GUY WHO MAYBE HURT A FRIEND OF MINE.

GUY YOU USED TO TELL ME STORIES ABOUT.

THE ONE YOU KNEW FROM 'NAM.



YOU KNOW WHERE I CAN FIND HIM?













"JUST HAVE TO HELP EACH OTHER LEAVE OUR DAMAGE BURIED IN THE PAST."

FAGS.



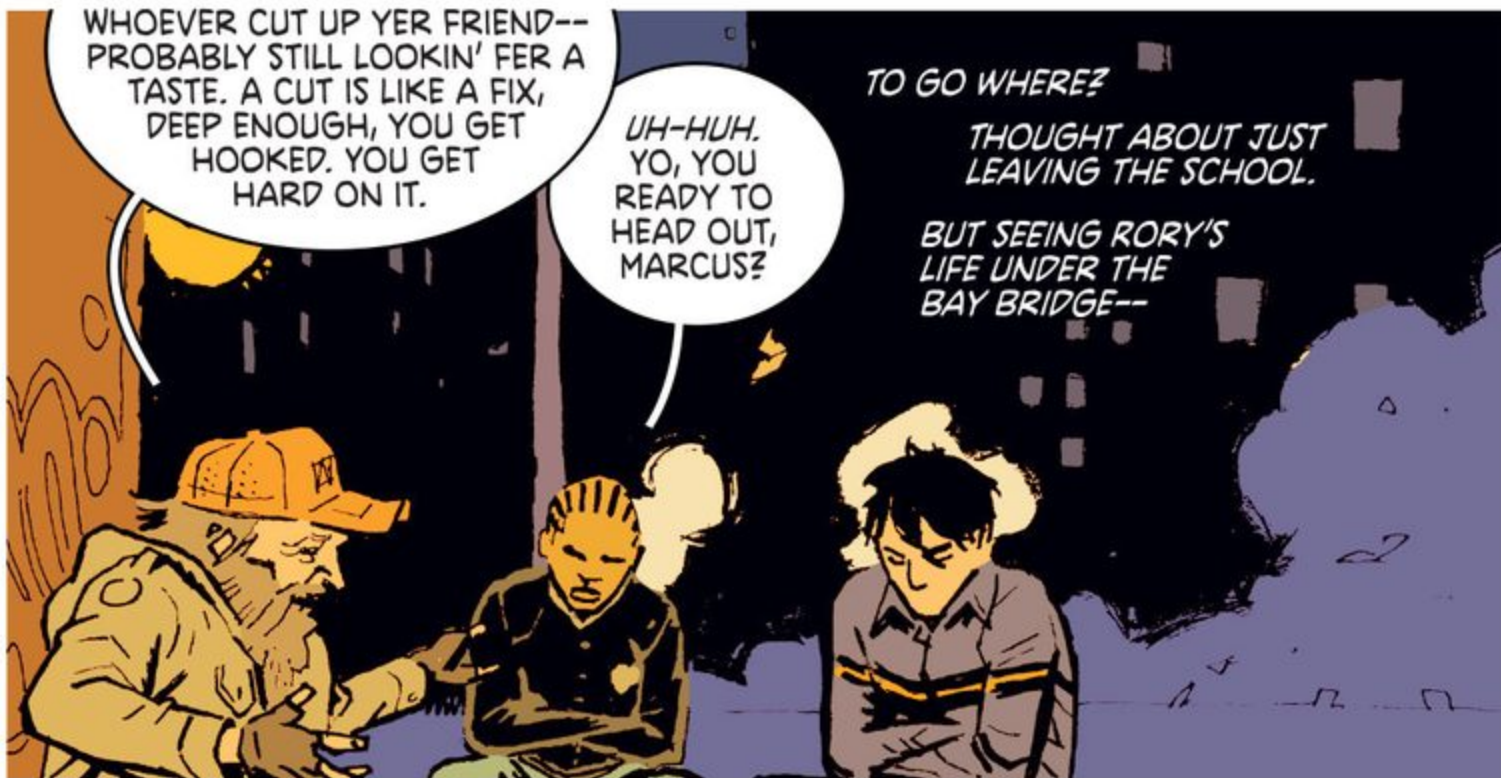
DECIDED TO FAIL THE ASSIGNMENT.

WILLIE'S NOT UP TO IT-- SHIT, NEITHER AM I.

IF WE FAIL, THINGS COULD BE BAD FOR US AT THE SCHOOL. TIME IN SOME DITCH PRISON, OR MAYBE EVEN EXPULSION... WHATEVER THAT MEANS.

SORRY, MAN.

CREEPY DANIEL'S THE ONLY **REAL** KILLER I KNOW. COULD BE WHO YOU'RE LOOKIN' FER.



WHOEVER CUT UP YER FRIEND-- PROBABLY STILL LOOKIN' FER A TASTE. A CUT IS LIKE A FIX, DEEP ENOUGH, YOU GET HOOKED. YOU GET HARD ON IT.

UH-HUH. YO, YOU READY TO HEAD OUT, MARCUS?

TO GO WHERE?

THOUGHT ABOUT JUST LEAVING THE SCHOOL.

BUT SEEING RORY'S LIFE UNDER THE BAY BRIDGE--



BAD REMINDER OF WHAT'S WAITING.

YOU DO WHAT YOU GOTTA DO, MAN.

WITH THE STAKES AS HIGH AS THEY ARE OUT HERE--THE GENERAL LEVEL OF SHIT WE'RE UP AGAINST--GOTTA DO WHAT YOU GOTTA DO TO SURVIVE, MAN.



YOU FANCY FUCKS WANT SOME CHILIBEANS?

PIPIN' HOT FROM THE ASS OF JESUS.

EXPIRED CHILI--



--ANOTHER BAD REMINDER OF WHAT IT'S LIKE TO OUT HERE.

STILL, SOMETHING NICE ABOUT THE FAMILIAR, EVEN WHEN IT STINKS.

BURP

YUCK, MAN. JUST... YUCK.

IT'S WHEN THERE AREN'T ANY OTHER OPTIONS-- THAT'S WHEN YOU CAN TASTE THE TIN AND ROT.

HOW DID YOU END UP OUT HERE, YO?

WATCHED MOST OF MY FRIENDS DIE IN 'NAM.

CAME HOME TO VENOM, PEOPLE CURSIN' AN' SPITTIN'.

LOST MY LITTLE GIRL TO A CAR WRECK WHILE I WAS OVER THERE.

PARENTS DIED NOT TOO LONG AFTER THAT.

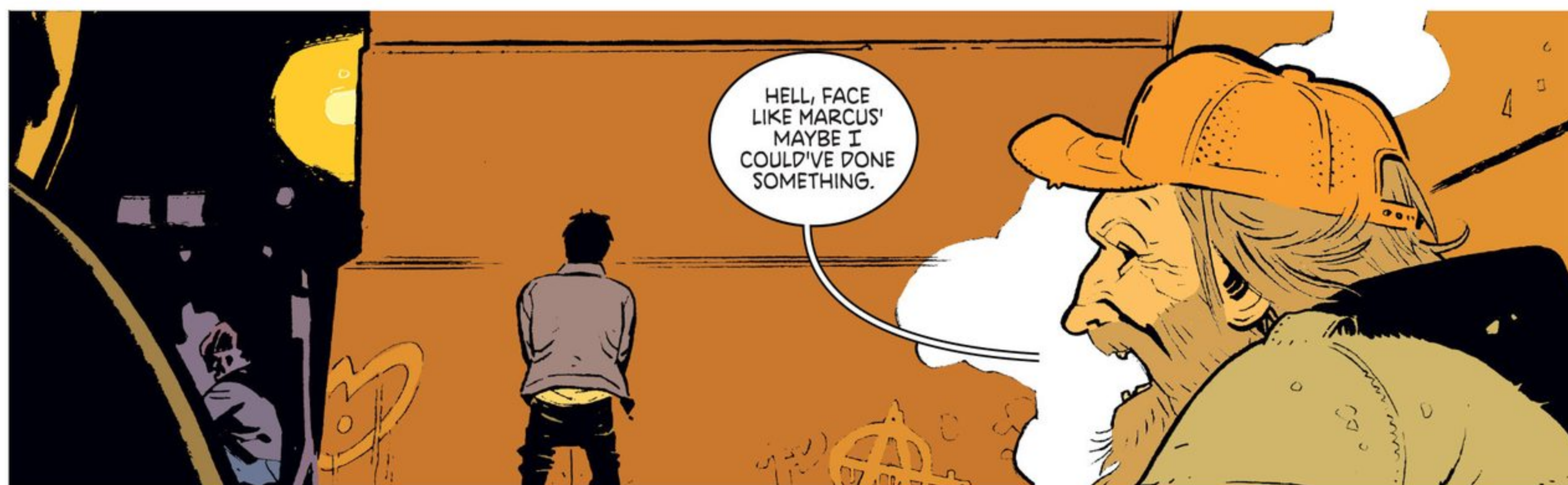
BUT, YOU KNOW, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO DESCRIBE. IT ALL JUST BROKE ME.

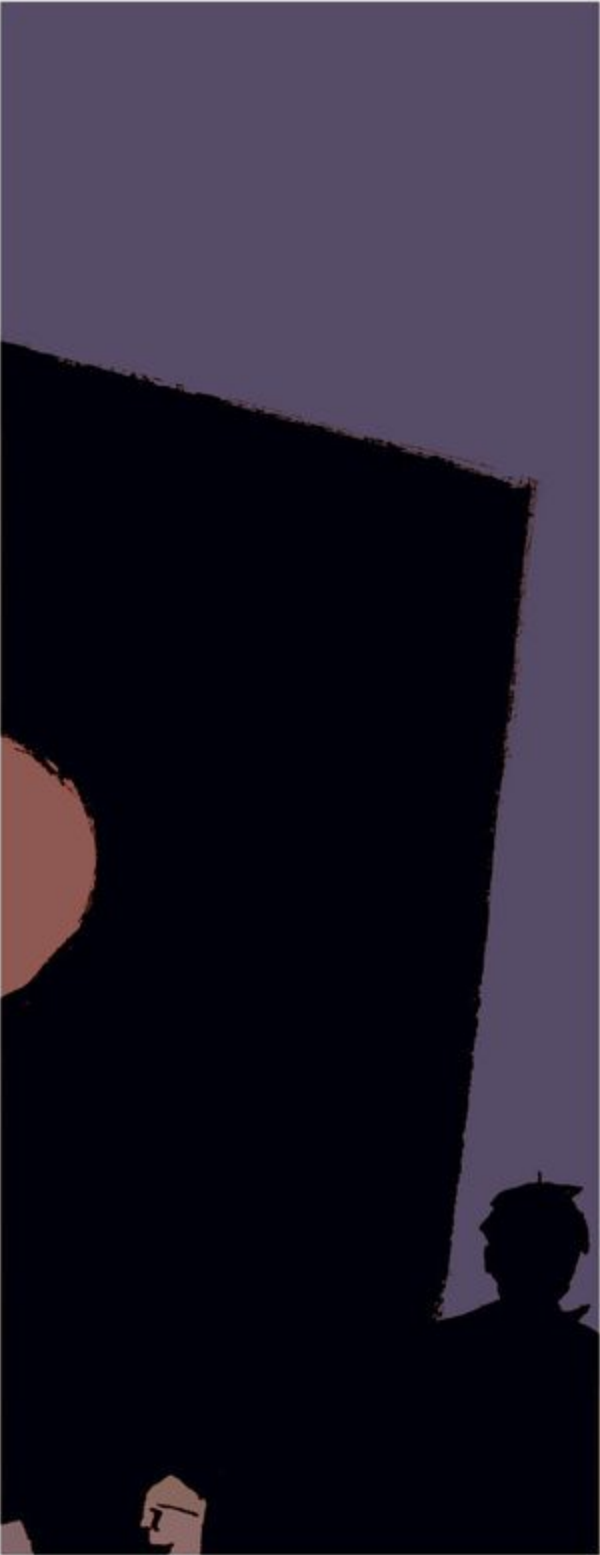
BROKE MY SOUL. AND WHEN YOU GO THROUGH SHIT LIKE THAT...

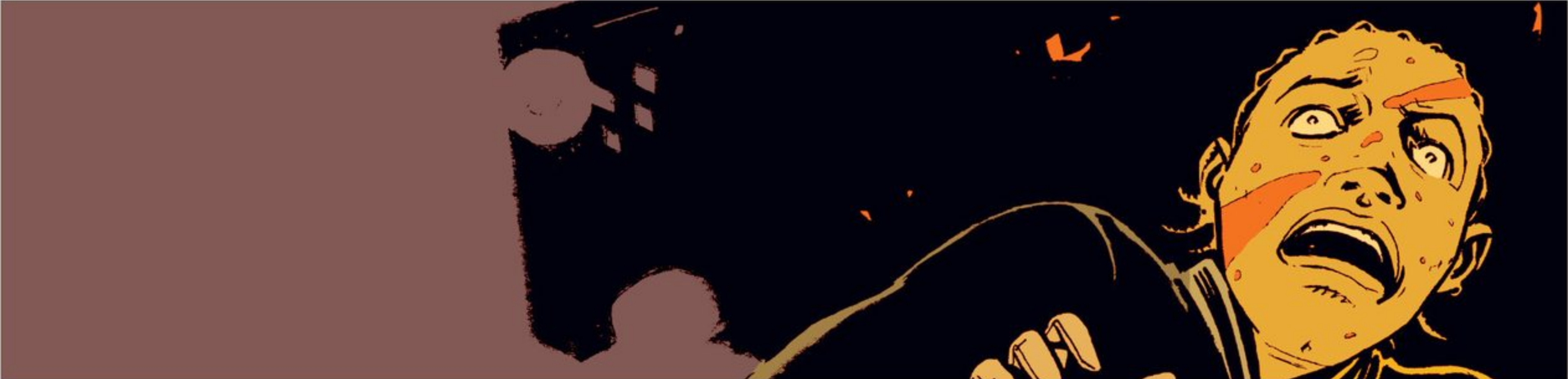
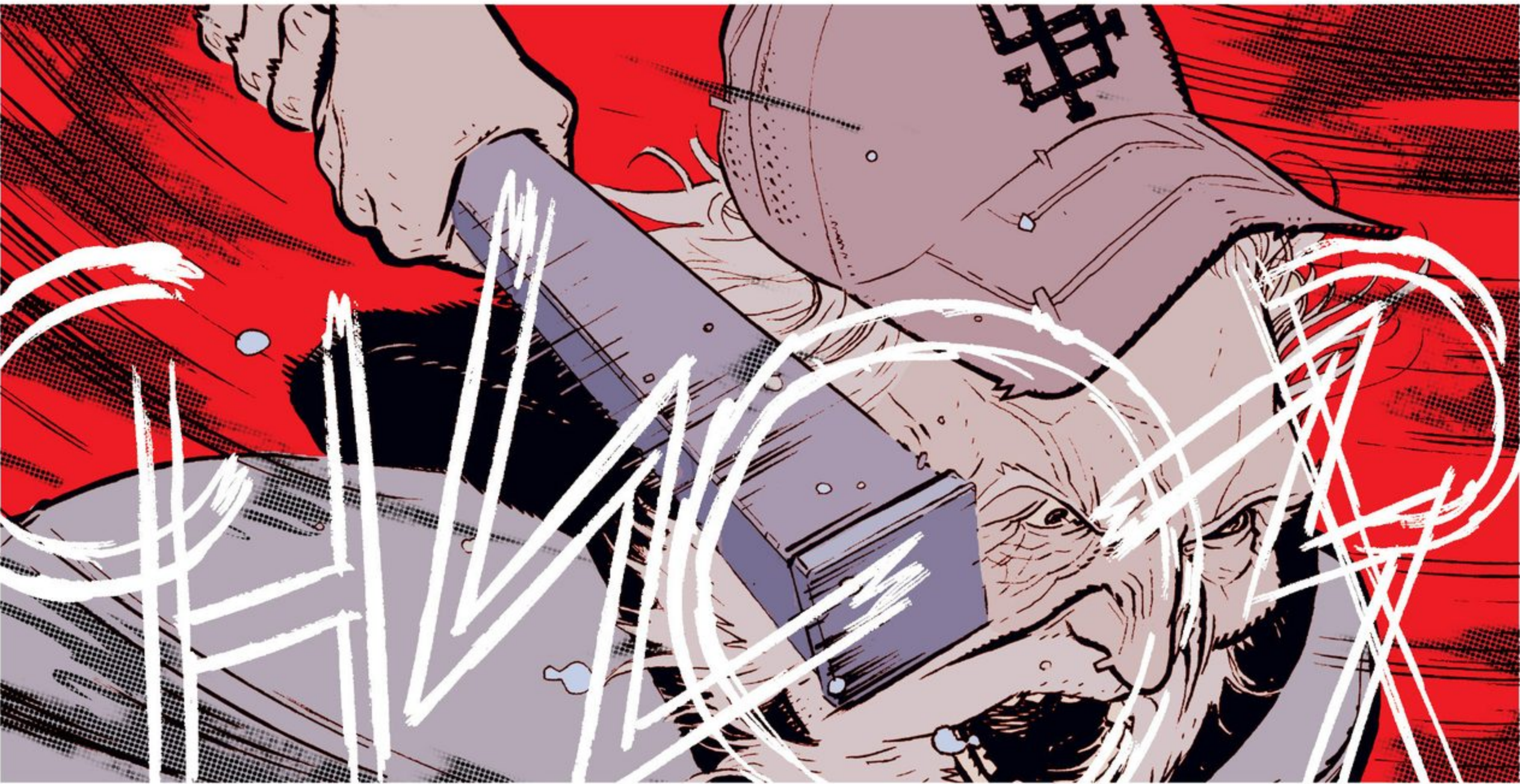
ZIPPO-TORCH A VILLAGE...

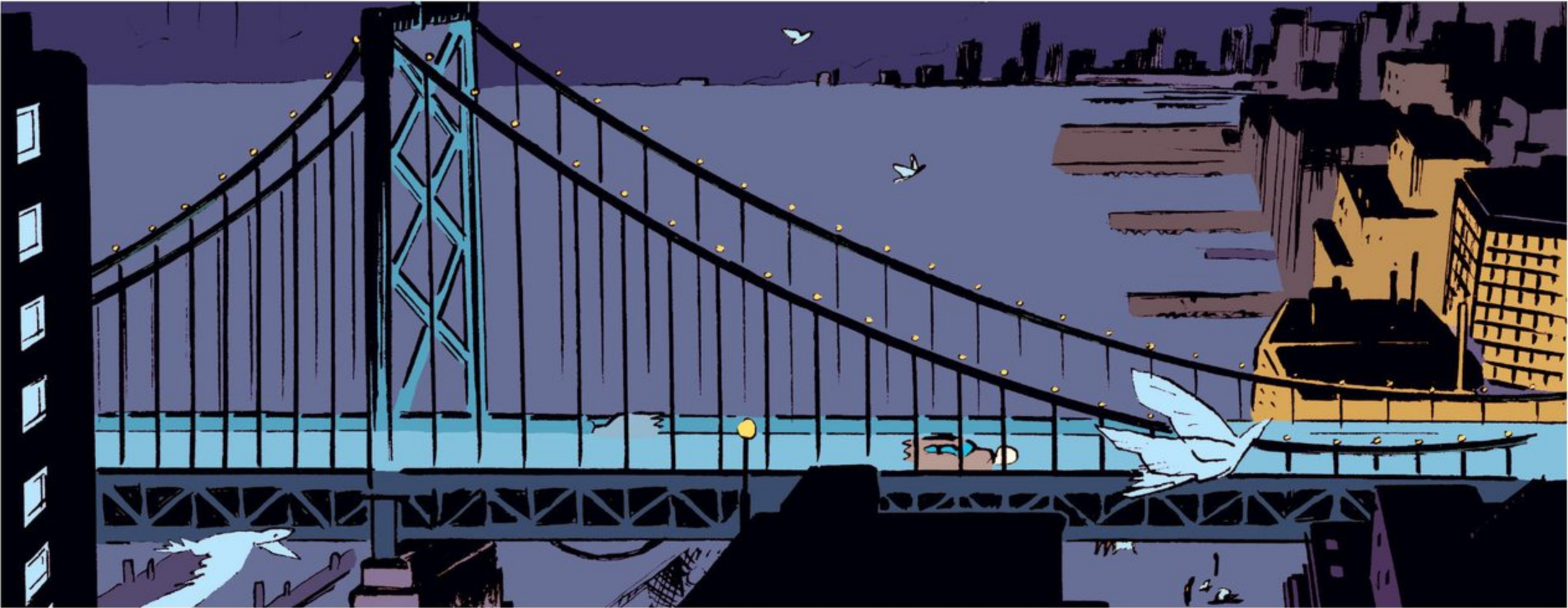
...WELL, THAT SHIT DON'T NEVER LEAVE YOU.

I GOTTA TAKE A PISS.

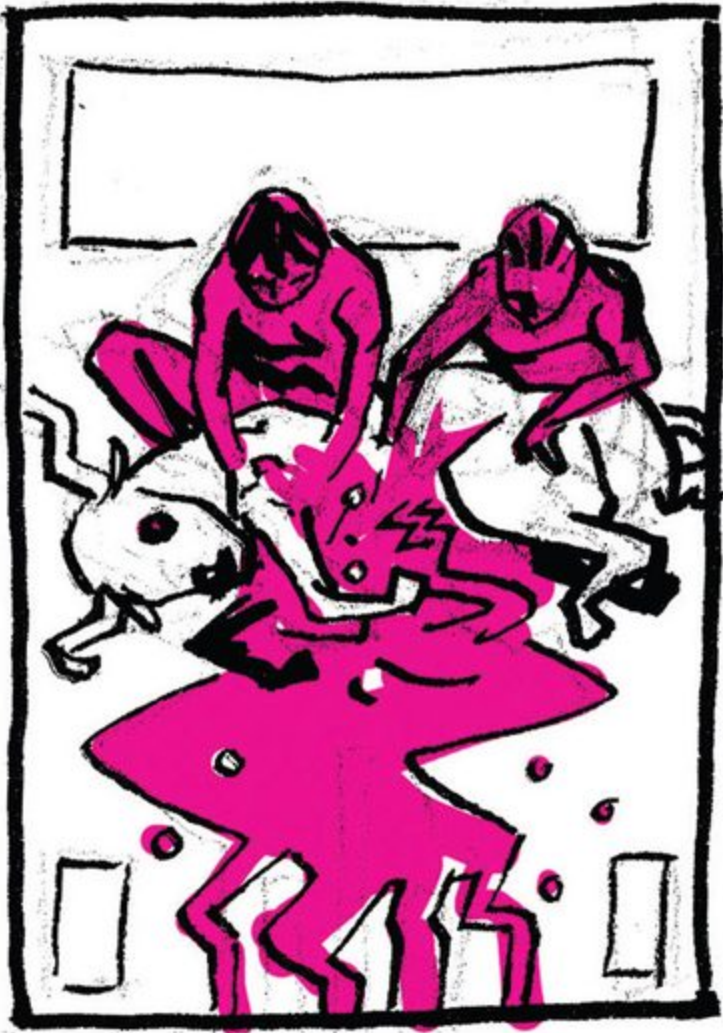








WES
CRAIG'S
PROJECTS





DEADLY CLASS

LETTERS PAGE

WriteRemender@gmail.com

RR - How many of you have been stuck in relationships or in a bad place because you had nowhere else to go? It's powerful stuff. Marcus is a broken kid. His is a troubling story about abuse, and what it can do, and how violence can pass down and be absorbed into those who were abused. Marcus has an unmanageable rage inside of him. It rises to the surface without his control. But he's not a bad kid. Well, he's clearly bad. Not all bad anyway. Stick around, you'll see.

Okay, so, on to the letters. I'm turning over the answers to our trusted editor Sebastian Girner. Play nice, he's German.

Damn. There's not much else for me to say!

I've been waiting for this comic to come out ever since you announced it, Mr. Remender! And just like Saga, it completely delivered! I love the concept, love Marcus, and even though I've never seen Wes Craig's art before I love that too! It's really weird actually, I just got back from a family vacation from San Francisco. And like everyone else, we took the tour boat at Pier 39 that went under the Golden Gate Bridge. It was awesome, flash forward a few weeks later and BOOM! Marcus's parents die by someone jumping off the Golden Gate!! As awful as this was I thought it was super creative and extremely disturbing.

So yeah, just letting ya know I'm all in for the ride!

Thank you for making great comics!
T. Petersen

SG - Glad to have you aboard, T. ! Wes really is the kind of artist where you ask yourself where they've been all your life. Give it a few more issues of DEADLY CLASS and we'll all be spelling out his name in gasoline on our lawns and lighting matches to praise his glory!

Rick,

Please don't kill off any characters as early as Issue #2. I'm only beginning to love them so please don't take them away so swiftly (though they're all trained killers, I don't think they're getting defeated without putting up a fight).

Wes and Lee,

Wow. I feel like every single page is a labor of love. I just want to say that my favorite pages were the ones with the unconventionally shaped, and sideways panels. Also, please don't draw the psycho jumping clown lady anymore.

Dude gives me the creeps.

Julius S.

SG- Thanks, Julius! As you can see, we managed to hold out until issue #3 before killing everyone's favorite character Rory, the War Crime Hobo! As for the future, Marcus and the gang are gonna be going through some tough times and probably not everyone is going to make it out in one piece. But none of these kids are gonna go down without a fight, I promise you!

Hey Rick, Wes, Lee, Rus and Sebastian!

Just finished reading Issue 1 and all I can say is that was amazing, heartfelt and action packed.

The writing, pencils, lettering and coloring all worked so well to great a nigh on perfect comic book. This issue, along with Black Science, make for two of my top new series in the past twelve months. I'm looking forward to Low completing the trifecta.

The whole package served as the perfect escape from personal and work-related issues that I've had going on of late, so I'd like to thank you all for that.

As a teacher, I'm looking forward to seeing how the curriculum at Kings Dominion School of the. Deadly Arts differs from my taught curriculum. I think it's safe to say yours will be the more exciting.

Thanks again guys, I'll definitely be back for Issue 2!

Rowan (Ireland)

PS: Looking forward to adding the collections of the new series to my library! To all new readers, I can't recommend Rick's back catalogue of creator owned work highly enough!

SG- Cheers, Rowan! Thanks for supporting our various comic efforts! Nothing makes us happier than hearing that these stories help take you out of your everyday troubles for a while. That's still something comics do better than any other medium. I'm sure there's a kid or two at your school just like me, cutting class to sneak smokes and read comics. Go easy on em'! And we'll definitely be seeing more of Kings Dominion's macabre curriculum in future issues, so stick around!

Rick,

I finished up the first issue of DEADLY CLASS and I loved it. Specifically the deep and believable depression that Marcus seems to rapidly fall into as the issue moves along.

I'm not sure where this book is headed but I like the character work here and I loved the art presentation.

I will pick on your history though. In January of 1987 the Giants had already started their run to the Super Bowl as the top seed. So that little gambling wager at the beginning of the book doesn't make sense. Unless those two degenerates have lost touch with reality.

Okay, we'll go that route.

All the best,
Brandon B.

SG- Good catch, Brandon! I'm not really up to date on my sports trivia, so lets just say that those two guys were totally heffed-up on goofballs, yeah?

Pretty fucking rad!

Yours,
Chris T.

SG- You, sir, are a scholar and a poet. Truer words were never typed!

Hey! You all listen to those sweet jams Rick listed last time? Some legendary tracks there, BUT I noticed a distinct lack of thrash metal on that playlist, despite San Francisco being the metal Mecca of the '80s! And you just know there's a massive metalhead hiding in Kings Dominion somewhere!

So prepare for a massive bangover because here are some monster tracks from a few Bay Area bands. And since Rick pointed out my sinister old world origins, I threw in a few from German trashers as well. Represent!

*NUCLEAR ASSAULT - Great Depression
DESTRUCTION - Life Without Sense
DEATH ANGEL - The Ultra Violence
ONSLAUGHT - Power From Hell
KREATOR - Some Pain Will Last
TESTAMENT - Over The Wall
SLAYER - Postmortem*

And you know what pairs really well with the crushing riffs of years gone by? Coming up with a cool title for this page! Send your best ideas for a DEADLY CLASS Letters Page to WriteRemender@gmail.com and we'll pick a winner in the next issue or so!

That's it for this month! See you all again back here in 30 when we take Marcus out of San Francisco and onto the worst trip of his life!

SG.

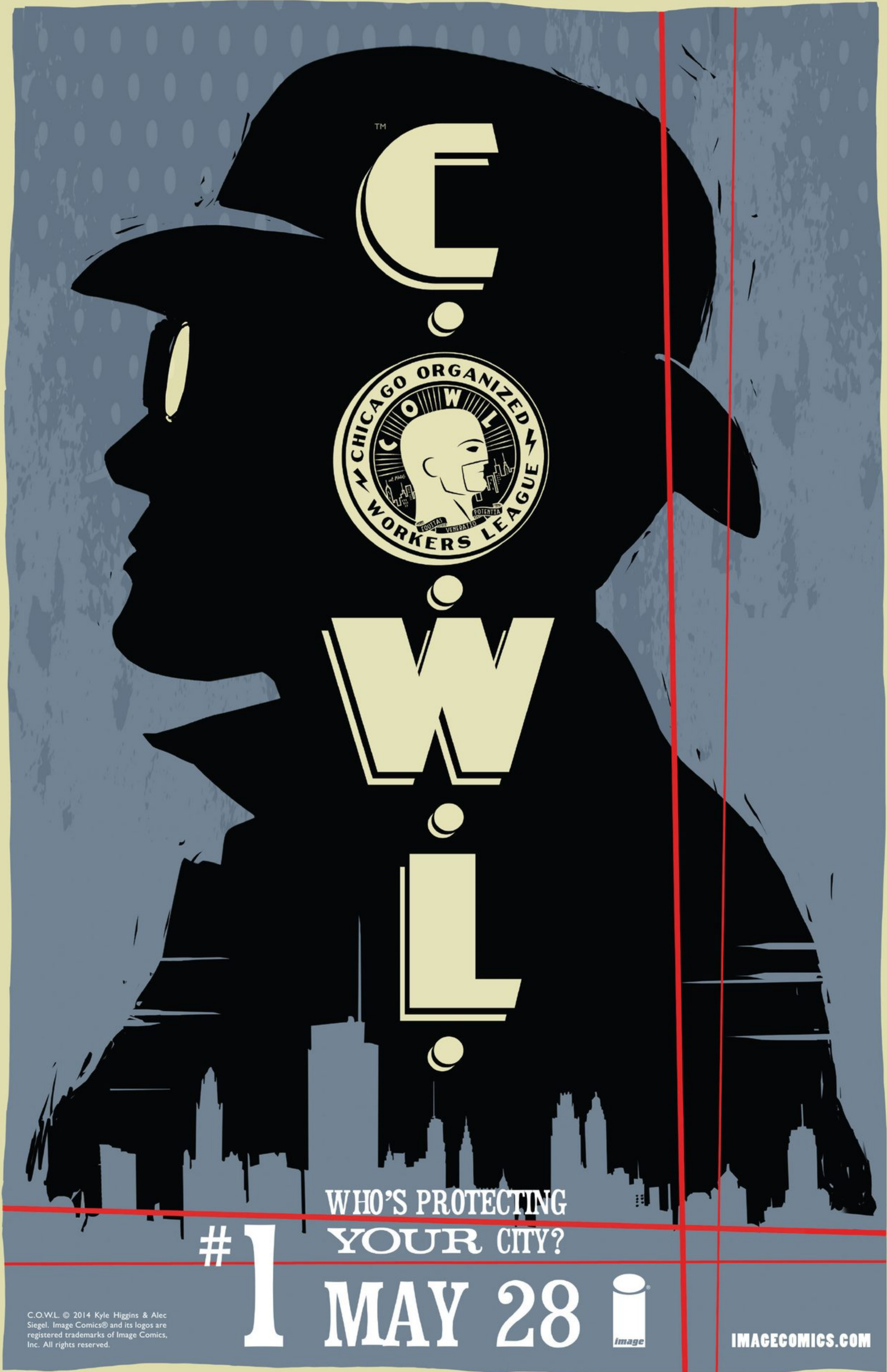
NEXT MONTH



REMEMDER
CRAIG
LOUGHRIDGE

#4 • \$3.50

1987



WHO'S PROTECTING
YOUR CITY?

#1

MAY 28



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